

1. Claims 1, 3, 7-8, 10 and 12-13 have been amended. Claims 4-6, 9 and 11 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3, 7-8, 10 and 12-14 have been examined.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 04/02/2008 has been entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1, 3, 7-8, 10 and 12-14 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

For independent claim 1, the prior art of record, alone or in combination, fail to teach the use of a user information file that includes signature numbers, a type indication, that indicates log entries have been produced at the time of transmission, time of reception or time of publication and a partner to whom publication is to be notified; the user information file is updated when the user is notified of a publication of the user's signature log and the agency's signature log.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DAVID J. PEARSON whose telephone number is (571)272-0711. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2137

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

DJP

/Emmanuel L. Moise/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2137